

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: 6AU6 as an oscillator
Message-ID: <199510080219.VAA08080@zoom.bga.com>

It occurred to me to wonder just how well a 6AU6 might do in a circuit designed for a 6C4. Anybody tried it? Triode-connected or pentode connected? =20

The plate dissipation ratings are the same, but the 6AU6, pentode-connected, has about three times the transconductance of a 6C4. Probably need to cut the grid current down, but it seems to me that a 6AU6 ought to sing like a bird in a tuned-grid setup that originally had a 6C4. Might even last longer. =20

I just happen to have a signal generator with a tuned plate circuit that eats 6C4's for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and might just try this out. I wonder if someone's been there before me. =20

--=20

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: Steve Ellington <n4lq@iglou.com>
Subject: Re: 6AU6 as an oscillator
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.951007234819.7129B-100000@iglou2>

> I just happen to have a signal generator with a tuned plate circuit
> that eats 6C4's for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and might just try
> this out. I wonder if someone's been there before me. =20

I have noticed that a lot of bad 6C4 tubes myself. They don't hold up=20
well. The HQ170 I had developed a hum on certain bands and turned out to=20
be a cathode to filament short in the 6c4 osc tube. I stuck with the=20
original tube type though.

BTW. Recently I ordered a replacement 12BE6 from International CC. The=20
filament was extreemely bright and tube only lasted a few days before=20
developing a short. Does anyone know anything about that company. Maybe=20
they don't makem like the use to eh?=20

Steve Ellington N4LQ@IGLOU.COM Louisville, Ky=20

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: jeffa@ix.netcom.com (Jeff Anderson)
Subject: Collins Filter ID?
Message-ID: <199510080018.RAA18615@ix2.ix.netcom.com>

Does anyone know about Collins filters? I just picked up someone's=20
"project chassis" at a flea-market, and found a Collin's filter inside.=20
Its info is:

Type: F250 A-67
P/N: 522-9039-002

What are this filter's characteristics, and what this might be out of?

Thanks,

- Jeff, WA6AHL

=20

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: haynes@cats.ucsc.edu (Jim Haynes)
Subject: Couple of interesting items from ARC
Message-ID: <199510080045.RAA28425@hobbes.UCSC.EDU>

The October issue of Antique Radio Classified came today.

Has a picture of what looks like an S-38 to which someone has added a Jap=anese
S-meter; but the caption says it is Lafayette Model KT-200, and that it's a transformer powered set, not ac/dc.

Then there's part 2 of an article on vintage tube testers, this one deali=ng
with military models. Describes the TV-7, the I-177A, and the TV-2.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: jlyle@netcom.com (Jim Lyle)
Subject: Re: Couple of interesting items from ARC
Message-ID: <199510080235.TAA02268@netcom5.netcom.com>

>=20

> The October issue of Antique Radio Classified came today.
>=20
> Has a picture of what looks like an S-38 to which someone has added a J=apane
> S-meter; but the caption says it is Lafayette Model KT-200, and that it='s
> a transformer powered set, not ac/dc.
>=20
I have a KT-200, AND an S-38. They're only superficially similarly. I=20
like the KT-200 a lot, but mine has a fair amount of rust inside it. Is =
there
any good way of removing that?

--=20
Jim Lyle jlyle@netcom.COM
Troubador Technologies
Consulting Services
(408) 247-4199

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: Deerfield NH report
Message-ID: <9510080505.AA07842@kali>

Rochester (Deerfield) NH report
OCTOBER 1995

Well, it RAINED both days, but it was still a lot of fun for my
friends and I. Here's a spotting report:

Johnson	Ranger I	several dingy ones	\$125-175
Johnson	Viking II	dirty but complete	\$50, sold for ??
Johnson	Valiant 2	clean, front paint poor	\$195
Lysco	Transmaster	been here before	\$40?
Collins	51S-1	good, no cab	\$400, sold
Collins	KWM-2A	nice, supply	\$525
Setch. Carl.?	BC-1206-D	w/box + adapter plug	\$10
???	ARB rec.	"nicely done" mods, AC	\$30
Hammarlund	HQ-180A	clean, loose dial	\$175
Hammarlund	HQ-170A-VHF	poor panel paint	\$175
Heath	Apache	in fire, w/good SSB ad.	\$25
???	CV-157 ssb ad.	no mtrs, bad xfmr	\$25, sold
National	SW54	pretty clean, complete	\$35
WRL	Globe Scout Del	clean	\$80

Heath	HO-10 Ham Scan	panadapter, clean	\$135
Collins	R-390A	good, only one seen	\$225, took \$200
TMC	CV-591	ssb adapt, good	\$50, sold
Collins	32V-3	M I N T -- no joke	\$650, unsold?
ARC	???	ARC-5 ant mtr/mnt NOS	\$50, had two
ARC	BC-?	4+up tx, NIB!	\$50, had three
???	???	ART-13 VLF ant tuner	\$100 NIB!
Hammarlund	SP-600-JX-??	recapped, clean	\$395
Hammarlund	HQ-129-X	red ltrs, vy clean	\$70
Lafayette	S-38 clone	clean	???
TMC	GPR-90-RX	nice, some scuffs	\$350
Heath	AT-1	many mods	\$30, sold
Heath	Twoer	clean, no Heath logo	\$20
Hallicrafters	SX-62A	wrong knobs, dirty	\$250!!!
Lionel?	J-36?	no nameplate, good	\$25, sold
Eddystone	streamlined bug	rare, he emphasized	\$395!
Harvey-Wells	Bandmaster SR	NOS!	\$50, sold
Heath	Apache	various	\$75-125
Heath	Mohawk	clean, vy nice cab	\$100?
Drake	TR-3/RV-3	saw a couple	\$195-225
Collins	75A-3	pretty good	???
Cent Elect	20A + 458 vfo	fair	??? no dlr around
National	200 xcvr	saw two, fair	???
National	NCX-5 vfo/cal	clean, just the vfo/cal	\$100
Instructograph	portable	AC mod, CONTINENTAL tps	\$10

Whew!

I had a good time -- I braved the rain both Friday and Saturday. I actually paid the \$20 dealer price to get in at 9:00 on Friday, but wound up in the car for a couple of hours because of the rain. I would get out every half hour or so and make a round...most of the dealers didn't set up until noon. But I did find some bargains before 3:00 so I guess I got my \$20 worth.

Let me say that WA1DEJ (Rick or Rich, I forget) had an AMAZING setup. He advertises regularly in the Yellow Sheets, so you may want to give him a call if you want to take a chance on him having that elusive thingamabob new in the box. (Heck, tell him I sent you.) He was the one with the 32V-3. I tell you, it was GORGEOUS. He also had the ARC-5 stuff and the ART-13 tuner. I've never even SEEN one of those things, and he had it new in the box. It was like falling through a time warp. He also had some thumbwheel tuning plug-ins for the HRO-600! I wound up buying a dow-key relay and a nice little Sylvania modulation meter from him. (Model X-7018, got a manual?) I was going to ask him if I could get the 32V-3 on installments. Oh it was BEAUTIFUL! (And probably unsold...we're cheap New Englanders, you know.)

I found a couple of plug-ins for my project 535 for \$30 for the pair. One is the 1A1 dual-trace, and the other is the 067-0521-01 test load/cal fixture. They both look new inside. I also got a 200 kHz FT-243 for the R-392, so even though I don't have the oven I should at least have a cal signal now.

I got the J-36. I assume it was a Lionel, but the nameplate is, of course, missing. It should clean up okay but it will still look OLD, which is fine with me. What's good for cleaning nickel? (Someone should make some repro tags for those keys!)

I picked up the 390A and CV-591 as well. I must be psychic -- several things I was "thinking about" showed up in my line of sight. I bought this 390A because it has a smooth geartrain. When I get the dried grease cleaned off it should be smoother. It's an EAC one from the 1960 contract. Rick had the CV-591 as well. Now that I have the pinout I may give it a try. Fair has the manual for \$10. Where can I get the multi-pin connectors?

One thing that fell into my backpack was what appears to be a clone of the Millen 90800 6L6/807 transmitter. (See our own Jim Hanlon's article on this in the May 1995 Electric Radio.) It could be its ugly twin brother. The tubes are mounted out the back of the unit, but construction seems to be very similar to the Millen. The workmanship inside is a bit sloppy, so I will rebuild it. There is a filament transformer inside, but I guess I will have to supply my own bias and HV. Has the 40m coils, too, made by Bud. Does not say Millen anywhere but the 807 plate cap, so I think this is homebrew. Looks like fun, for \$10.

I was tempted by the 51S-1. I have never seen one live in person before. As an SW BC DXer as well, I'm intrigued by it, but it doesn't have enough knobs for me to "tweak." Are cabinets hard to find? This is not the first time I've heard of one without a cabinet.

I was SORELY tempted by the GPR-90-RX and wished I hadn't bought the 390A the previous day. (I recovered.) It was in pretty nice shape.

I also bought the AT-1. This has had some heavy mods done to it and I will have to get a manual to see how far in left field it's been hit. The meter looks similar to the Heath one in Chuck Penson's 2/93 ER article. There are two 1/2" holes in the lower part of the panel...at least they're symmetrical; I'll find something useful to put there now that it's been done. I don't think this particular AT-1 is of high collector value so I will clean it up as best I can.

I may even do a rebuild like Dave Ishmael's project (6/93 ER).
The Twoer went home with me, too. The next day I found the matching
Turner mike for a buck! What is the freq for the crystals in
this rig? 8 MHz?

I got a pair of ARC VHF transmitters, at least I think they are. Both 28V; one is a T-13A, and the other says T-366A and was NIB yesterday morning. Unfortunately, while the dealer was away, someone dropped it, so it now has a dented corner. :-/ Three 5763s inside, but no crystals. 1) what are they? 2) does anyone want this pair?

There was a dearth of National and Drake this year. I saw an ancient National walk away and I thought the dealer said it was an NC-81X. It sold for \$40 I think. Only Drakes I saw were a couple of TR-3 and TR-4s, and a B-line.

All in all, it was a pretty good show; I didn't spend too much and I had several nice chats with BA-sympathetic people. Hope it doesn't rain this Spring, though!

--Andy
wallace@mc.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: bill.sorsby@dlepl.itg.ti.com (Bill Sorsby)
Subject: Equipment prices
Message-ID: <199510080219.VAA25440@dlepl.itg.ti.com>

>
>drop in my two cents worth. First, I am amazed at the prices some (but=20
>not all) of the people attempt to charge for equipment. At least two to=20
>three times hamfest prices. I have no doubt that SOME of the stuff has=20
>been carefully rebuilt, but the majority???
> There are price guides available for this stuff; see Electric Radio=20
>mag or ARC newsletter.=20
> Let's be fair to one another; life's too short.=20
> I know this will generate flames; so be it. Hams are gentlemen, not=20
>shysters. 73. Ed K3PRE
>

Interesting post Ed,

I just got back into ham radio and old radios (I used strictly war surplus
stuff 30 years ago when I was a kid) in the last few months and wondered
whether the prevailing prices posted on the internet were typical of

equipment prices throughout the country. They sure aren't typical of the prices I can get equipment for locally (Dallas - Fort Worth area) nearly every weekend. And if I buy something via the internet I have to pay shipping too. Consequently, there's not much posted that seems worth buying.

Interesting thing about hamfest prices is that the prices vary widely. I went to a hamfest today down in Belton, Texas. The people trying to sell equipment with prices like those on the internet didn't seem to be selling

anything. Without exception, all of those guys who had interesting equipment when the place opened up still had the stuff when I left three or four hours later.

So that's my two cents worth, too.

Regards,
Bill, N5BU

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: bill@texan.frc0.com (William Hawkins)
Subject: Re: Equipment prices
Message-ID: <9510080427.AA14012@texan.frc0.com>

On the other hand, hamfests are not spread uniformly across the country. I am amazed at what you guys on the coasts are able to pick up, never mind what it costs. So if someone puts up something for sale that is three times what a regular hamfest goer thinks it is worth, I might snap it up because it's the first one I've seen in five years.

Please don't turn this into a flame war - that's what alt.flame is for, not this group. We've been around the price thing before, and left it that the price is determined by what people will pay.

I offered a decent SX-62A to a guy for \$150. He never replied. I've seen them advertised for twice that. Maybe he's used to seeing them for \$20 at hamfests. Maybe \$150 is too much, but no one is going to pull that beauty out of my shop for much less than that. And, if the thought of that price makes someone howl with laughter - remember that the market will decide if it is a fair price.

Bill Hawkins bill@bvc.frc0.com 612 895-2085 Minneapolis, MN USA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>
Subject: For A Good Time, Call 1-800-325-9465
Message-ID: <951008024906_71333.144_DHB42-10@CompuServe.COM>

..that's C&H Sales Company and they have listed in their current catalog a complete set of the AN/PRT-4 and AN/PRR-9 helmet radios from the '60s. Brand new with accessories for \$55. That is the best price I have ever seen on brand new versions of this setup--quite a bargain in my opinion. All major plastic accepted.

1-800-325-9465

I am not affiliated with them in any way. Just thought somebody might want to take advantage of this...

73, Don

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: Terry Burge <terrybu@netman.ENS.TEK.COM>
Subject: Hammerlund HQ-170.
Message-ID: <9510080319.AA03809@netman.ENS.TEK.COM>

Anyone looking for one of these should contact R/5/D/3 Electronic=20 Surplus, 6111 SE 82nd, Portland, OR 97266, (503) 774-6560. The rig appeared to be in good to very good (not excellent) condition and Bob said it worked excellent FWIW. I believe he is asking \$145. I have done business with him and always felt I was very well treated.

Terry
KI7M

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: shaun.merrigan@freddy.com (SHAUN MERRIGAN)
Subject: RE: Heath BA OP Amp
Message-ID: <8B29242.0004024A5A.uuout@freddy.com>

On 10/06/95, JPROC spoke about RE: Heath BA OP Amp; I say:

J>work. It can be connected as a constant current source, a controlled

J>potential source, a linear sweep generator, or as a servo system
J>simulator. Additionally , subtraction, intergration and
J>differentiation problems can be programmed. The amplifier system
J>incorporates 4 hi-gain op amps, a high current booster amplifier and
J>regulated +300 amd -300 volt power supplies.=20

Jerry:

Bingo! Thanks much. BTW I did get those files you sent, thank you.

I have asked if anyone has a manual for one of these. Before I part them=20
out, I would like to get a manual and see what I use I could make of=20
them. =20

Integration problems eh?? Wonder how what my profs would say when I=20
show up at the mid-terms with 4 of these on a dolly wired up to do=20
integration!!!

Shaun

Shaun P. Merrigan
merrigan@nyquist.ee.ualberta.ca
shaun.merrigan@freddy.com
3rd Year EE University of Alberta

=FE CMPQwk 1.42 856 =FEWhat has four legs and an arm? A happy pit bull.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: Highlander TV - W.S. #19?!
Message-ID: <9510080406.AA07760@kali>

No, this isn't off topic! <grin> I just saw this week's episode
of Highlander (Adrian Paul etc.) and part of the plot was set in
"the Balkans" with some sort of rebels fighting. One of the=20
props inside the "headquarters" was a radio which sure looked=20
like either two No. 19 wireless sets stacked on each other, or else
a similar Soviet-looking set. Definitely anachronistic for the=20
1995 setting of the scene. The dials sure looked like the #19. I will
tape it tomorrow so I can freeze-frame -- check your Sunday evening=20
listings and you'll probably see it on a UHF station. The show is=20
partly produced in Canada, and I understand the #19s are popular=20
there.=20

Hmm. What would I buy if I were a prop-man for a studio? (Gee,=20

J.B., this movie sure needs a KW-1 to make this scene authentic.)

--Andy
wallace@mc.com

P.S. Thanks for the CV-591 pinouts, folks -- now to hunt down a manual.

From boatanchors@the porch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: Grant Youngman <gyoungma@gtetel.com>
Subject: RE: How's the performance of=20
Message-ID: <Chameleon.951007191004.gyoungma@gyoungma.gt etel.com>

>You may be disappointed with the HQ-180 in comparison with the R390A. I=
=20
>used 'em both, side by side for several months. Sold the HQ-180, kept=20
>the R390A. The 180 is a good "consumer grade" rx, don't get me wrong.=20
>But it is not in the same league design-wise, stability-wise or quality=20
>wise as the R390A.
>

This is all certainly true. But the HQ-180 is also a very fine example o=
f=20
many typical HAM/SWL receivers of its day. In its class, its hard to bea=
t ---=20
especially as a very nice general coverage SWL receiver. And, if you ign=
ore=20
the stability issue which in practice isn't a main line issue for me at l=
east,=20
and if you ignore 200Hz readout accuracy, and a whole lot of other things= :-),=20
its a fine performer on SSB.

I don't think the comparison between the HQ-180 and R390 is really a fair=
one.=20
Both are good examples of best-in-breed -- even though the breeds are qui=
te=20
far apart. And besides, I don't need to get my neighbor to help me chang=
e=20
frequency with my HQ-180A :-)

Grant/NQ5T

Grant Youngman -- NQ5T

Once upon a time (and maybe again): K5VCM

and for a while W0JXE, KH6HHC, WB4BBB

gyoungma@gtetel.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: edrk@ix.netcom.com (ED KOWALSKI)
Subject: introduction
Message-ID: <199510072343.QAA29273@ix4.ix.netcom.com>

drop in my two cents worth. First, I am amazed at the prices some (but=20
not all) of the people attempt to charge for equipment. At least two to=20
three times hamfest prices. I have no doubt that SOME of the stuff has=20
been carefully rebuilt, but the majority???

There are price guides available for this stuff; see Electric Radio=20
mag or ARC newsletter.=20

Let's be fair to one another; life's too short.=20

I know this will generate flames; so be it. Hams are gentlemen, not=20
shysters. 73. Ed K3PRE

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: introduction
Message-ID: <199510080613.BAA17990@zoom.bga.com>

As ED KOWALSKI said

>=20

> drop in my two cents worth. First, I am amazed at the prices some (but=20
> not all) of the people attempt to charge for equipment. At least two to=20

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> I know this will generate flames; so be it. Hams are gentlemen, not=20
shysters.=20

>=20

I'm not sure just how to respond to this. I have offered my RME-45 for
sale for what I have in it. \$3200. No cabinet, and a replacement
front panel. I plan to use that RME myself for a while, so am in no

hurry to sell it, certainly not at a loss. That is about 12 times the price I saw on an RME 45 today at Belton. It didn't sell, either. =20

Stan Griffiths will sell you a clean, working, calibrated Tek letter series scope and some plug-ins for \$125. I've got a 533A here that I'd sell, with G, K, and L plug-ins, for that price---clean, working, and calibrated. It's no secret that I paid \$3.50 for the scope and a buck apiece for the plug-ins. There is the small matter of what happened to them after I got them home.

1. Bath. Washed the faces, behind the ears, and most everywhere else.
2. Rebuilt the fan motor.
3. Got the scope working. That involved finding and fixing one bad tube, a neon bulb problem, and a bad timing resistor. If the scope wasn't squeaky clean before I changed that resistor it certainly is now. The resistor is behind the CRT shield, which means plenty of disassembly and reassembly. =20
4. Calibrated the scope. =20
5. Cleaned up some plug-ins, got them working, and calibrated. =20
6. Replaced the handles with new ones from Stan Griffiths. =20

Anyone who thinks that is "trivial" can consider just how much stuff you have to have around to calibrate a Tek scope properly. Add to that the need to know how to use the equipment properly to get a good calibration. Stan has more experience fixing Tek scopes than I do, but I spent enough time designing circuits for them that I have some idea of what to look for when I see one that isn't working. I don't know how many boatanchor list readers are prepared to diagnose a neon bulb as a cause of no sweep. Considering that most people would prefer to use a scope rather than fix it, I think that \$125 for what either Stan or I might have to sell is a real bargain. =20

I really don't think that hamfest prices are much of an indication of what good clean equipment is worth. I've never bought anything at a hamfest that was "plug and play." A couple of items came up after washing their faces and attending to relatively minor stuff, like power cords and RFI filter caps. But more often than not, I open something up and find that someone couldn't fix it, and made the original problems worse. =20

It also seems to me that on this list there is plenty of gloating about some of the "real bargains" that followed people home, and not much said about things for which people paid **real money**. =20

One thing that has surprised me is how many people "wished" they or a buddy had scooped the 575 Mod122C curve tracer I got at the Austin Summerfest a couple of months ago. There was another 575 Mod122C up at Belton today, looked pretty clean. The guy wanted \$75 for it, probably

would have sold it for less, and I think it went home with him. My 575 has already begun earning its keep. =20

Asking prices are just that. Most of the so-call "price guides" are not, so far as I am concerned, worth the cost of the paper they are printed on. People are willing to pay huge bucks for Collins. Me, I have my price for Collins. \$25 for a 75A4, tops. =20

--=20

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995

From: bill.sorsby@dlepl1.itg.ti.com (Bill Sorsby)

Subject: KW2000B

Message-ID: <199510080133.UAA20926@dlepl1.itg.ti.com>

I bought - very cheaply - an interesting radio today. It is a British made KW2000B which is a late '60's SSB transceiver semi-clone of a Collins rig= , including a mechanical filter. The thing has 20+ tubes (er, valves) and came with a manual. It works poorly now, but that doesn't look like anything seriously wrong.

Has anyone in this country heard of the KW2000B before that could provide= a

subjective assessment of its performance when properly working. (Just so I'll know when to quit trying to fix it ;-). It sure seems to be a nice little SSB 160-10 meter radio.

Regards,
Bill, N5BU

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995

From: jproc@worldlinx.com

Subject: RE: KW2000B=20

Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.951007233316.jproc@jproc>

Bill,

>Has anyone in this country heard of the KW2000B before that could provide a subjective assessment of its performance when properly working. =20

I own a KW200A. The receiver is quite good, and the transmitter audio is standard as far as SSB rigs go and it's worth taking a stab at fixing up = the=20

unit. It is equipped with RIT and XIT, which was and still is a great=20 feature.=20

On an operational basis, I curse several design flaws. The first, is the = fact=20

that 40 meter ham band is limited to a 200 khz segment. In other words, you=20

have to decide whether to plug in a crystal for 7.0 to 7.2 or 7.1 to 7.3;= a=20

real nuisance when you want to scan the whole band. Secondly, I find the = dial=20

too small to read. On a standard unit, to plug in a key, one must wire it= =20

into an octal plug as there is only one accessory socket on the unit. I=20 retrofitted mine with a phono jack.=20

=20

>From a design viewpoint, it would appear that the British designers of this=20

set never heard of, or seen a terminal wiring strip. One side of components=20

are soldered to the tube base. The other end is solder tacked to other=20 components and wires in mid-air. If your are working on the rig, you have= e to=20

be careful not to disturb any of the under chassis wiring for fear of=20 creating more problems. Also note that KW Electronics is out of business = so=20

if you need a part, it can only come from a junker. Overall, this rig was= =20

designed with one major criteria - keep it as economical as possible.=20

Hope this helps you.

Jerry Proc VE3FAB
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com
Radio Restoration Volunteer
HMCS Haida, Toronto Ontario=20

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>
Subject: Lafayette KT-200 Receiver FS
Message-ID: <951008024237_71333.144_DHB42-9@CompuServe.COM>

Those of you who subscribe to ARC will note the picture of the Laffalot=20 KT-200 in this issue. If that piques your interest, please remember that I have one for sale for \$60. Unworking but looking pretty good. I plugged it in and the filaments did not light. The fuse was okay and I = did=20 not check any further. Let me know if you're interested.
Don, N3RHT: 412-234-8819 EST weekdays or here.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
Subject: Project: microphone
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9510080708.A14184-0100000@indy2>

Hi!

A (more or less) short report on a small project I put together in my=20 shrinking free time, a 1930's gimmick that turns out to work very well.

I have a few sets of Brush-Clevite crystal headphones. They're very good, but notorious for being susceptible to mechanical shock. ...A few years back, one set of cans took a trip to the floor in a sort of Buster Keaton stunt involving This Correspondent half-asleep, a SWL receiver on the nightstand, a comfy quilt, and two cats who don't play well together.=20

It would've been funnier if one of the headphone elements hadn't conked out in the process!=20

So, with one *good* Brush-Clevite earpiece, what do you do? Make a=20 mic out of it! I'd been saving a piece of surplus from work, a brass=20 ring about 7" in diameter, 3/4" deep and 1/4" thick. Hardware-store=20 scrounging turned up four screw-eyes of a solderable mystery metal, eight=20

springs, and one of those brass widgets used to dress up the anchor of a=20 ceiling-hung light fixture, the latter perfect for a base when filled=20 with plaster. The junkbox yielded up some fairly heavy 1/2" brass strip=20 and brass wire, along with a tallish (about 3/4" HxD) brass fitting from=20 1/4" plumbing.

Brush elements are (for those who haven't seen 'em) octagonal on the back, with a typical hi-Z headphone cap on the front; there's a grille about 1" in diameter cast in the center of the cap. The brass strip was formed into a press-fit holder for the back part of the element and soldered, then I made four small "eyes" from the brass wire, drilled the brass holder to fit them in four places 90 degrees apart, and soldered in=20

the "eyes." A bit of cleaning-up with files, and it was ready.

The large ring was trickier. It already had eight equally-spaced=20 holes along the radius, tapped 6-32, and the (woodscrew-threaded!) eyes=20 went in pretty well. After soldering in place with a learge gun, the=20 protruding pointy ends of the eyes were ground and filed off.

One of the holes between the four now in use was drilled out to clear=20 a 10-24 bolt; the bolt, a few washers, and the old bit of plumbing=20 hardware were installed through the center hole of the light-fixture=20 base, after which that assembly was filled up with plaster.

Once the plaster had set, the ring was mounted to the base, and eight small coil springs were used to suspend the mic assembly in the center of the ring. With the addition of a short shielded lead and 1/4" phone plug (using lugs from the origanal headphone cord), it was done--voila, a homebrew crystal mic, 1930s-style! (It was a common trick; there's a very nice bullet-style one to be found in QST, using common--for the time, alas--junkyard and five-and-dime parts, a wonderful project for the serious scrounger).=20

Not having a Class A 'phone ticket, nor a 160 or 10m 'phone rig close to hand :), a hi-fi reel-to-reel recorder was used to check it out. The little microphone works like a champ, sensitive and with good fidelity.=20 Not a studio-grade instrument, but excellent for a ham mic. The=20 suspension seems to work, too--it *will* pick up fingers drumming on the=20 desk-top, but not to an extreme degree. Doesn't seem to be any hum=20 pickup at all.

While it's not a D-104, it's a perfectly fine mic, and looks pretty=20 nice, too!

...Now I've got to take apart and rebuild the double-button carbon=20 mic, and see how it compares. ;)

73,
--Bobbi
(See, I *do* do stuff now and then)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995

From: Bill VanAlstyne <bill@cruz.com>

Subject: R-390A IF module caps -- need advice!

Message-ID: <199510080445.AA00787@cruz.com>

Hello all,

I pulled the IF strip (EAC) from my R-390A today to have a look under the hood and generally clean it up. (It seems to work fairly well as far as I can tell, other than the AGC being kind of poor, but I'm planning on doing the AGC/BFO mod on it soon.) This is the first of the modules I've pulled= to look at, and it had a few surprises in store for me.

1) First of all, although most of the caps in the uf range are those black plastic tubular guys, a few of them are a yellow-body "Micamold" tubular type. These are generally 0.1 uf and 0.033 uf caps in various modes of operation. Each of these caps is covered with a *fine white powder*.=20

All these caps check out perfect for capacitance and leakage (using an ohmmeter), though I haven't checked them for leakage at voltage yet. I plan

to just replace them. Does anyone know, however, what the white powder is and why this particular type of capacitor has degraded in this fashion (if

in fact that is a correct deduction)? Since the bandwidth switch shaft appears to be aluminum and is also affected by deposits of a white powder (presumably aluminum oxide), I am suspecting that perhaps the Micamold caps

contain aluminum also, which has oxidized and has somehow deposited on the outside of the capacitors' plastic sheaths. I don't know exactly how this would happen.

2) There are several hookup wires and disk capacitor leads which had been covered with clear plastic sleeving, which sleeving is now coated with a white substance that rubs off easily. The affected sleeving is mostly in = the

vicinity of the four mechanical filters. When the white coating is rubbed off, the clear sleeving appears to be discolored (yellow-brownish), while the unaffected sleeving is still clear. This tends to suggest some kind of

chemical process to me, perhaps precipitated by heat. Has anyone seen this effect before, or know what it is caused by?=20

3) Capacitor C541, 0.033 uf plate bypass for V509B IF cathode follower, has been removed by a previous user. I can find no production modification wh=

ich
calls for this. It seems to me that removing this cap would allow RF in the
plate circuit, which you don't really want with a cathode follower, but I
don't know what the upshot of that would be in this application. I assume=I
should restore this cap. Could somebody render me a technical explanation
for why this cap might have been removed, or what not having it there might
cause?

TIA for any light anyone might be able to shed on these issues.=20

Bill VanAlstyne, N6FN
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From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: Damon Z Cassell <dcassell@lynx.dac.neu.edu>
Subject: Rochester NY
Message-ID: <199510081248.IAA26282@lynx.dac.neu.edu>

Just a supplement to Andy Wallace's report on Deerfield (Rochester) NH.=20
I was up there Saturday and saw quite a few BA gear. Andy obviously
listed a good portion of it, so here are a few things I remember.=20
Unfortunately I didn't have pen and paper so I can only recall a few:

Johnson Courier -- NICE shape, \$400!
Heathkit DX-100 -- terrible shape, \$75 (the nerve of some people)
Knight T-150 -- terrible, \$75 (same guys)
Johson Viking Ranger I, average, \$195
Johson Viking Ranger I, poor, \$150 (grr)
Heathkit/Daystrom DX-60 (not A or B), EXCELLENT, \$40 (almost got it)
WRL Globe Champion -- Good, \$300
Hammarlund HQ-129X -- good, \$125
Drake R4A -- good, \$125
Hallicrafters HT-40, \$30 (my buy)
Viking Kilowatt Matchbox, excellent, \$300
Hallicrafters:
S-94
S-95
S-28
S-38
etc., no prices noted.

I can't remember much else, because there was ALOT there. Unlike Andy, I saw tons of Drake gear -- every imaginable variant of the 4-line at least several times over. Saw a 3-line too, didn't get the price. Hallicrafters in abundance...don't remember all the models, just too many. =20

Some good prices, some outrageous prices. Noticed alot of guys selling nice HG-10B VFO's for the DX-60 for around \$70. Outrageous in my mind probably because I paid \$15 for mine. Another cruddy DX-60 was on sale for \$70 -- why?

The few Rangers I saw were dirty, scratched to high hell, and priced into oblivion. This is not fair.

I saw SEVERAL Mohawk/Apache combinations in VERY good condition. The guy in the little covered stall had two that were shrinkwrapped and looked like new. This guy also had the Courier for \$400. I don't know if that's a fair price but he was asking very reasonable prices for the rest of his nice Heathkit stuff. Hope to catch him again next spring. Right across from him was the KWM2A for \$525.

Well that's it. The weather looked like it was going to be cruddy on Saturday but it turned out to be a pretty good event. Last spring was a washout so I guess people weren't going to let it get to them this time.

later,

Damon Cassell, WU1T
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From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: "Mitch, WA4OSR" <fmitch@maf.mobile.al.us>
Subject: Re: RTTY remembered
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.951007185913.2526A-100000@ns1>

i just took inventory of my rtty boxes... i have 2 heath hd-3030's, 1=20 fsk-1000, 2 hal cri-200's, 1 hal st-6000, 1 hal st-5000, and at least 2=20 or 3 of small kantronics type interfaces... and o-yes, an aea dsp-2232

unfortunately, i sold my homebrew (i even made the pc boards) st-6, my=20 dt-600, my half dozen or so st-5's, and i don't know how many pll type=20 demodulators... my model 28 is in the storage shed, in pitiful shape... i=20

resisted the urge to bring a model 32 home from a 'fest this year...

building every rtty and cw keyer project that appeared in the mags used=20
to be my favorite pastime...

it was really sad to see irv hoff's call, w6ffc in the silent keys list=20
in qst recently... dale sinner and i had a long conversation about irv at=
=20
the dallas hamfest this year...

the way i learned to program microprocessors was writing code to send rtt=
y
using 1 bit of an output port... afsk, no less!!! but, i really needed a
printer for my computer, so i regeared my model 28 to 100 wpm and hooked
it to one bit of an output port on my 6502... wrote an ascii to baudot=20
translation program, and that was my computer printer for 2 or 3 years...=
=20

and, today at the biloxi hamfest, i picked up a ti dsp evaluation kit for=
=20
\$20 to start messing with dsp rtty modems...=20

i still am a member of bartg... the *best* rtty/digital group with still=20
a *great* magazine with actual construction articles... and they have a=20
new rtty demodulator project going...

but, nobody uses the old mechanical jobs anymore... kk4cq and i were
talking about rtty today coming back from the biloxi 'fest... harvey ran
the nato station in germany for the army for a few years... he said the
old rtty machines just wouldn't hold up at 100 wpm... he said in 1985 or
so, the army switched to, get this, heath h-8 computers... they had a goo=
d
programmer and he replaced most of their rtty machines with the heaths...

and... harvey brought the manual for the new hal p-38 card for me to look
at... hi...=20

mitch
wa4osr

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From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Oct 8 10:18:00 1995
From: morriso@vifp.monash.edu.au (Morris Odell)
Subject: Selsyns
Message-ID: <199510080635.QAA01626@brain.vifp.monash.edu.au>

I wonder whether anyone can help me identify a couple of types of types of selsyn I haven't heard of before.

The first one looks like a "typical" 50 Hz selsyn but is marked "Magslip Resolver". It has a 3 phase type winding on the rotor brought out to slip rings. The stator has 4 terminals which appear to be 2 separate windings. There is no oscillation damper fitted.=20

The other also looks like a typical selsyn and was made by Ferranti. It is marked "Magpot" It has a 2 slip ring rotor and only 2 stator terminals.

Are these some type of control transformer? Has anyone seen them before or have any info? They come out of a very heavy piece of naval equipment which was full of gears and dials and had something to do with gunnery (there was a dial marked "calibre").

Morris VK3DOC

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